

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-81 (canceled).

Claim 82 (currently amended): A method for preventing relapse in a patient, said method comprising:

applying force to at least one tooth in a jaw of the patient, and
administering a tissue remodeling and/or an angiogenic substance(s) to the patient to promote remodeling of ~~a tissue~~ gingiva surrounding ~~a root~~ of the tooth, wherein said ~~tissue~~ is ~~selected from the group consisting of periodontal tissue and gingiva. tissue remodeling and/or angiogenic substance is administered to the patient at a dose from about 1 ng to about 500 µg per day.~~

Claim 83 (new): The method of claim 82, wherein said remodeling and/or angiogenic substance is relaxin or an analog or mimetic thereof.

Claim 84 (new): The method of claim 83, wherein said relaxin is delivered to the patient for a period of time before, after or during an orthodontic procedure to some or all of the regions of the gingiva where teeth have been moved in order to promote stabilization and remodeling of the gingiva.

Claim 85 (new): The method of claim 83, wherein said relaxin is delivered to the gingiva by a topical composition selected from the group consisting of gel, cream, ointment, and fluid substance.

Claim 86 (new): The method of claim 83, wherein said relaxin is injected into the gingiva.

Claim 87 (new): The method of claim 83, wherein said relaxin is released from a controlled release device engaged against the gingiva.

Claim 88 (new): The method of claim 82, wherein said applying force comprises positioning a removable appliance between one or more anchor teeth and one or more target teeth.

Claim 89 (new): The method of claim 88, wherein applying force further comprises adjusting said appliance, wherein said appliance is selected from the group consisting of positioners, aligners, and retainers.

Claim 90 (new): The method of claim 88, wherein the removable appliance comprises a reservoir which releases the substance.

Claim 91 (new): The method of claim 90, wherein the reservoir further comprises a porous structure which releases the substance at a controlled rate over time onto the gingiva of the patient.

Claim 92 (new): The method of claim 82, wherein said remodeling and/or angiogenic substance is applied to the gingiva while force is applied to at least one tooth in the jaw of the patient.

Claim 93 (new): The method of claim 82, wherein said remodeling and/or angiogenic substance is applied to the gingiva after force is applied to at least one tooth in the jaw of the patient.

Claim 94 (new): The method of claim 82, wherein said remodeling and/or angiogenic substance is applied to the gingiva before force is applied to at least one tooth in the jaw of the patient.

Claim 95 (new): The method of claim 82, wherein the angiogenic substance is selected from the group consisting of VEGF, bFGF, estrogen, nitrous oxide and naltrexone.

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PATENT

Claim 96 (new): The method of claim 82, wherein the patient undergoes orthodontic treatment.